

roadway nor the survey limits. The project area is cleared of any impact to significant cultural resources.

### Discussion

To conclude, in an anecdotal history of late 19th-century Wilmington, Montgomery (1872) provided several glimpses of the project area and its general vicinity during this time period. Montgomery (1872) described an area only slightly more densely settled than depicted in the 1736 map (Map 3). Dwelling houses are set on large lots which also contain outbuildings, gardens, and orchards surrounded by open spaces (Montgomery 1872:145, 188, 190). There appear to have been a few small clusters of tenements where poorer individuals resided (Montgomery 1872:189, 197). Occupations of individuals residing in the project area were primarily associated with mercantile and shipping pursuits (e.g., ships' captains, merchants, sailmakers) (Montgomery 1872:145-230). Figure 1 graphically portrays the changing socio-economic composition of the project area through the 19th century. Data from which the graph was prepared were obtained from the occupations recorded for individuals listed in Wilmington City Directories from 1814 to 1890 (Appendix 1, Tables 2-8 present a compilation of the occupations listed for the project area). Occupation has been shown to be a major (although one of many) factor which determines an individuals' socio-economic standing in the community (Katz 1972:63). The occupational categories employed are based on the occupational ranking scale developed by the Philadelphia Social History Project (Hershberg and Dockhorn 1976). The graph suggests the

presence of a mercantile occupation frequency pattern in 1814; a period of fluctuation as the economic focus of Wilmington (and of the project area) shifted toward industrial occupations in the 1840s and 1850s; and a stabilization of an industrial occupation frequency pattern from the 1820s to the 1890s. The increase in the level of low white collar proprietary occupations (e.g., small businessmen such as storekeepers), while the proportion of skilled craft occupations (e.g., machinist, tanner, blacksmith) drops slightly but remained relatively high, suggests that the social segregation of the project area was not as well-defined as it may have been elsewhere in the city. Situated between the expanding Market Street commercial/business area to the west and a primarily residential area to the east, the Wilmington Blvd. project area was a transitional zone in terms of land-use segregation, and the occupational composition of the project area reflects this. Figure 2 illustrates the changing patterns of land use in the project area during the 19th century. Data were compiled from the occupation and business listings in the Wilmington City Directories for 1814-1890. The graph clearly indicates that the project area was primarily residential throughout the century, but the proportions of residential and combined residential/commercial uses increased. This further supports the contention that the project area was a transitional zone between the commercial Market Street to the west and the residential area to the east.

At this point analysis of artifacts and ecofacts with regard to changing inhabitants of the blocks can be noted. In general, the low number of artifacts and the prevalence of looted artifact

contexts makes the analysis of artifacts, with respect to socio-economic standing or ethnic background, an impossible task. Furthermore, recent studies in northern Delaware (Coleman et al. 1984) suggest that standard analyses of historical artifacts will not reveal these socio-economic and ethnic differences. On the other hand, analysis of food remains has some potential for illuminating these differences (Coleman et al. 1984; Otto 1984).

Analyses of faunal remains from the blocks studied here (Appendix 3) shows some interesting patterns which hint at differences in diet through space and time. Unfortunately, the context of the faunal remains does not allow the assignment of specific food use patterns to specific socio-economic and ethnic groups. However, some trends can be noted. For the most part, residents of the project area during the 19th century purchased most of their cuts of beef, pork, and mutton. On the other hand, there are some indications that on-site raising and butchering of chickens took place. There are also hints of swine raising, but there seems to be no evidence for on-site swine butchering. Hunting did not provide any food sources, although there is some evidence for butchering of muskrat. The overall picture is one of a group of urban residents buying most of their faunal foods, but supplementing their diet with home-raised animals. These patterns seem consistent with middle economic classes.

Even more interesting are differences among the larger samples with relatively good context. For example, one sample, block 1183, lot 55, feature 1, showed a well-rounded diet of shellfish, crab, fish, fowl (home-raised and butchered), beef

steaks and roasts, ham roasts, and mutton chops. A second sample, block 1192, Lots 18 & 19, feature 1, showed a preponderance of beef roasts and stewing cuts with some mutton roasts while a third sample, block 1184, Lot 7, feature 1 and Lot 13, feature 1, included beef steaks and roasts and a high proportion of mutton. Although the contexts of the finds are not good enough to match these diets with specific individuals, the faunal data clearly show different diets which may be associated with varied socio-economic or ethnic groups. The possibility of studying these kinds of differences, from a purely archaeological perspective, enhances the significance of the few intact deposits discovered. Also, these data suggest that a fruitful focus for future research would be controlled comparisons of faunal remains for archaeological contexts of known socio-economic and ethnic affiliation.

The results of excavations in the Wilmington Boulevard project area indicate the presence of intact and significant cultural resources in Block 1191 Lot 10, Block 1192 Lots 31 and 32, and Block 1184 Lot 58 (Map 2). The remaining survey area does not contain significant cultural resources.

#### **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

A preliminary cultural resource assessment was conducted within portions of the five city block area of the proposed Wilmington Boulevard widening and new alignment project, Front and King through Fourth and Walnut Streets, Wilmington, Delaware. The cultural resource assessment was designed to evaluate the extent, significance, function, chronology and contextual